

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter December 2019

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of another exciting and busy term. We have achieved a huge amount and this is due to our wonderful school community. Staff, children, parents and local community have all worked together, with our Board of Management, to make our school a great place to work and to learn. Thank you to everyone who has helped out during the year. We look forward to building on the successes of 2019 during 2020.

Swimming:

Swimming for 4th to 6th classes will run from Tuesday January 7th to February 11th inclusive. It will cost €30 approximately. We will send more details after the holidays and no money will be due until the end of January. Swimming is part of the PE curriculum so it is compulsory for all children to take part. Children will need a swimming hat. Goggles are recommended but are not compulsory.

Art:

We have had a lovely term with Iryna Harty doing art from 3rd to 6th classes. We hope to build on this next term. It is very expensive so we have applied to Cork County Council for grant aid to cover half the price. Hopefully this will come through and we will be able to continue with this project long into 2020.

Basketball blitz:

Mark Scannell organised a blitz for 5th and 6th class boys this month. Our boys were up against a competitive club team and they more than held their own. We are very proud of them. Our boys represented everyone in our school really well and we are very proud of them. Mark has promised to organise a blitz for the girls next term.

Local Principals Meeting:

Principals from the local primary schools met recently to discuss the emerging crisis around availability of places at second level in East Cork. We are very concerned that The Department of Education hasn't been proactive in making sure that there are enough places for all of our students. Primary schools send in their enrolment details every year to the Department so they have had the information for years to allow them to plan. We don't believe this is a problem made by second level schools. We have written to the Department of Education, local politicians and local secondary schools in the hope of getting a plan in place. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this.

Parents Association:

Our PA has been very busy over the last six weeks. They have prepared the calendar, got sponsorship for the calendar, organised the raffle, chased down prizes for the raffle and even managed to get Santa to take time out of his busy schedule to come and see our children! This week we had the raffle draw and the prizes have been won and delivered. There are still a few calendars left in the office. Thank you to everyone who supported our fund raising efforts. It means a lot to our school.

Christmas Performances:

We held our Christmas performances this week. Each class did something and the standard was amazing. The energy and enthusiasm was brilliant to see and everyone really enjoyed the day. There was a lot of work involved and there is great credit due to our staff who took this on at the end of a busy term. The help from home, with costumes etc was very much

appreciated. Well done to all involved! Thank you to everyone who made the effort to come along on such an awful day.

That's all for now.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

Fri Dec 20th: school closes at 12.15pm for all classes.

Mon Jan 6th: school reopens for Term 2.

Tues 7th Jan: swimming for 4th – 6th classes starts.

Jan 30th: 7pm: Board of Management meeting.

